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Whitehall, Nov. 4.

HIS Majesty has been pleased to Command the Publication of the following Order of Counci'.

At the Court at *Whitehall*, the Third of *November*, 1676.

By the Kings most Excellent Majesty, and the Right Honourable the Lords of His Majesties most Honourable Privy Council.

WHereas it hath been made appear to His Majesty in Council, That Sir Ellis Leighton Secretary to the Lord Berkeley, his Majesties late Ambassador in the Court of France, being appointed by the said Ambassador to solicite in that Court the Restitution of English Ships, and their Ladings taken by French Privateers, hath behaved himself corruptly in that Negotiation, by bare-faced contracting for and receiving Bribes in the prosecution of the Merchants Affairs, and sometimes making corrupt Agreements with the French Privateers to desist from and relinquish all further solicitation of the Interests of His Majesties Subjects, contrary to the Trust reposed in him, and to the great detriment and loss of the Merchants concerned; For which Offences he was committed to the Custody of one of the Messengers of His Majesties Chamber, in order to be carried Prisoner to the Tower of London, that he might be prosecuted and brought to condign punishment; But being conscious of his own Guilt, hath made his Escape from the Messenger, and is fled from Justice.

His Majesty therefore hath this day thought fit to Order, and doth hereby require and command all His Officers and loving Subjects to use their best endeavors to discover and apprehend the said Sir Ellis Leighton; and for their encouragement therein, His Majesty is pleased to declare, That such Person or Persons as shall apprehend the said Sir Ellis Leighton, and cause him to be brought before one of His Majesties Principal Secretaries of State, shall receive a reward of One hundred Pounds sterling for so doing.

Naples, *Octob.* 13. That the French have made a descent in *Sicily*, possessed themselves of *Melilli*, a considerable Post and put 500 men in Garison there is most certain, though we hope they will be prevented in the farther designs they may have, by the Vicerdy the Marquis de *Castel Rodrigo*, who is encamped with about 3000 men near *Catanea*, and *Don diego de Bracamonte*, who lies with the Troops under his command near *Siracusa*. It is said that the French intended about the same time they took *Melilli*, likewise to have attempted *Cerlentino*; but understanding that the Marquis *de Ballevicin* was there with 1200 Italians they changed their design.

Legorn, *Octob.* 20. Here is in Port the *Swallow* Frigat, expecting a Fleet of Merchantmen to Convoy home. Several English Fish Ships are arrived from *Newfoundland*, and the rest with the Men of War their Convoy are daily expected. From *Naples* we have advice of the taking *Melilli* by the French, a very strong place between *Siracusa* and *Augusta*, where they have left a good Garison, and are gone on some farther design. That the Marquis *de Castel Rodrigo* Viceroy of *Sicily* for the King of *Spain*, was at *Catania* with 2000 men, which did very much contribute towards the uniting the minds of those people. That the Viceroy of *Naples* had sent four Gallies to *Melazzo*, with four Companies of Spanish Foot and that it was said that the Duke of *Canzano* is to pass with his Regiment likewise to *Sicily*.

Venice, *Octob.* 23. Our Doge, with most of the Senators are going to pass some time in the Countrey. The last week we had Letters from *Constantinople*, which said, that orders had been sent to the Bassa, who commands the Ottoman Army against the Poles, to make a Peace with that Crown, so that it might be upon honourable Conditions; and that it was thereupon the general expectation at *Constantinople* that a Peace would be suddenly concluded, for that in effect the Turks were weary of a War with *Poland*, considering the resistance they had hitherto found, though their Forces were so unequal.

Vienna, *Octob.* 22. The 15 of the next Month, the Emperor means to part hence for *Linz*, and it's said that some dayes after will be celebrated there the Emperors Marriage, and accordingly that the Prince of *Dietrichstein* has orders to make all haste possible in order to his conducting the Imperial Bride thither. The young Archduchess of *Austria*, the Emperors daughter, is now treated as Queen of *Spain*, and has her Court accordingly; About Spring the Duke of *Infantado* is expected here from *Madrid*, to conduct her Majesty to *Spain*, and at the same time the Duke *de Medina de las Torres*, will be appointed to receive her on the Frontiers. From *Hungary* we hear that the Turks had attempted with 800 men to surprize a place called *Vesprin*, but that they were repulsed.

From the Elector of Brandenburghs *Camp before* Stetin, *Octob.* 29. Notwithstanding the illness of the weather, which grows very wet and cold, we still continue this Siege, which however is not formally carried on with making approaches to the Walls of the Town, for that the season will hardly admit of; but our Elector is resolved to try whether by force of Cannon, Granadoes and Fireballs, he can compel the Inhabitants to a Surrender. Yesterday, about a 11 a clock in the morning we begun to shoot the said Fireballs and Granadoes into the Town, which had their effect, for about 3 in the afternoon we saw a great Fire in the Town, which continued till 12 at night; and this morning, about 8 a clock, hapned another Fire in the place, by the effect of our Cannon, which lasted several hours. If this way will not do, we shall quit the Siege in 8 or 10 days, and turn it into a Blokade. Our Elector has appointed the Chancellor *Somnitz*, the Sieur *Braur*, and the Sieur *Blaspyl*, (which latter is at present at the *Hague*) to be his Ambassadors